

Mubarak ends Yugoslavia talks

BELGRADE (R) — Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had a final round of talks on bilateral cooperation and major international issues Wednesday with Yugoslav President Veselin Djuranovic, officials close to the two sides said. The talks, which began on Monday, were at Brioni, the Adriatic island summer residence of the late President Tito. Mr. Mubarak, accompanied by his wife and foreign Minister Ahmad Esmat Abdul Maguid, will holiday there until Monday when he is due to return to Cairo. The talks focused on the Middle East, the Iran-Iraq war, the Non-Aligned Movement and ways to promote bilateral trade and economic cooperation, the officials said. Mr. Djuranovic accepted Mr. Mubarak's invitation to visit Egypt at a date to be fixed later.

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Fahd meets Iraqi envoy

JEDDAH (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia Wednesday held talks with the vice-chairman of Iraq's Revolutionary Command Council, Izzat Ibrahim, on latest developments in the Gulf, the Saudi Press agency reported. It gave no details of the talks which were attended by Saudi Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, Petroleum Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani and other high-level officials. Mr. Ibrahim arrived in Jeddah from Oman after visits to Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates in what diplomats say is a bid to consolidate Gulf support for Iraq in its war with Iran.

OPEC team arrives in Iran

TEHRAN (R) — An OPEC committee arrived in Tehran Wednesday on the first leg of a seven-nation tour for talks aimed at maintaining stability in the oil market. The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) delegation is led by United Arab Emirates petroleum minister, Dr. Mana Saif Al Oteibi, and includes the oil ministers of Algeria and Venezuela. The committee, which will also visit Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia and Libya, is one of three groups set up at an OPEC meeting last month to persuade members to adhere to the organisation's pricing and production policies.

Libya 'did not send' envoy to Egypt

BEIRUT (R) — Libya Wednesday denied that its leader Muammar Qadhafi had sent a personal envoy to Egypt to try to improve relations between the two countries. The editor of the mass-circulation weekly newspaper Akhbar Al Youm wrote on Saturday that the envoy arrived in Egypt last month and "several senior officials in moves to improve bilateral relations. Libya cut diplomatic ties in 1979 when Egypt signed a separate peace treaty with Israel. But the official Libyan news agency JANA, in a dispatch monitored here, declared: "What was contained in Akhbar Al Youm is unfounded. The leader of the revolution did not send any envoy to Cairo."

Jackson sends cable to Peres

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson, accused by some critics of creating tension between American blacks and Jews during his recent campaign for the Democratic presidential nomination, has sent a telegram of greetings and encouragement to Israeli Prime Minister-designate Shimon Peres. Mr. Jackson's office said Wednesday. "I read with great interest of your opportunity to form a new unity government. You have before you a formidable task — to bring economic stability to Israel and peace with justice to all of the people in that troubled region of the world," Mr. Jackson said in the message to Mr. Peres.

INSIDE

- Israelis encircle Lebanese village with earth wall, page 2
- Arar calls for frank dialogue to overcome Arab problems, page 3
- Numeiri determined on implementing Islamic law, page 4
- Al Nubani faces up with our realities, page 5
- S.Koreans: threatened to pull out of Olympic boxing, page 6
- UNCTAD says global economic situation still threatens Third World, page 7
- Heavy casualties reported in Sri Lanka violence, page 8

Crown Prince stresses need to develop Jordan Valley highlands

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday stressed the importance of developing the areas located on the tributaries of the Jordan River and the uplands, bordering the Jordan Valley.

Crown Prince Hassan was speaking during a meeting with Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) President Munther Haddadin and the JVA staff at the Wadi Al Arab Dam.

Prince Hassan stressed the need for documenting and classifying information related to the Jordan Valley development experiment so that it can be utilised in the future.

At the beginning of the meeting, Dr. Haddadin welcomed Prince Hassan and paid tribute to the Crown Prince's continuous efforts and interests in projects implemented by the JVA since Prince Hassan took over the leadership of the working group which has been entrusted with the task of developing the Jordan Valley 12 years ago.

Prince Hassan also listened to a briefing by JVA project managers and engineers about various JVA projects and tasks which include water projects for Amman, Balqa and Irbid, in addition to irrigation projects in the valley.

Prince Hassan expressed special interest in the activities pertaining to developing the Al Zarqa basin and the Wadi Al Arab basin, which the Ministry of Agriculture is currently carrying out to preserve soil and reduce residues in the dams constructed thereon.

Prince Hassan expressed his willingness to hold a seminar in November in order to discuss the integrated development experiment in the Jordan Valley and to evaluate the experiment.

Prince Hassan toured various sections of the Wadi Al Arab dam project and inspected progress of work on the project and listened to a briefing by the JVA vice-president for dams affairs, Thafer Al 'alem.

Mr. Al 'alem said the dam is designed to store above 17 million cubic metres of water annually, of which seven million cubic metres will be used for irrigating 12,500 dunums of land in Baqura and 28,000 dunums of land by modern irrigation methods. It will also provide Deir Alla-Amman water project with 10,000 cubic metres of water every year.

Work in progress

Mr. Al 'alem pointed out that about JD 15 million project includes building a 82-metre high and 482-metre long dam, setting up of tunnels for maintenance, irrigation and drainage the total length of which is estimated at 1,200 metres with an average diameter of three metres as well as the construction of a 200-metre-long and 20-metre wide flooding canal. He also added that all the tunnels have been completed, 40 metres of the dam's height have been completed and the whole project is hoped to be finished by the end of 1985.

The Japanese government contributes to financing of the Wadi Al Arab dam project by about JD 34 million while the rest is financed by the Jordanian treasury.

Mr. Al 'alem also said that the JVA will build a pumping station on the East Ghor Canal in North Shuneh to pump extra water from the canal in winter through a three-kilometre long pipe to the Wadi Al Arab Dam lake and then this water will be returned from the dam's lake via that pipe to the canal in summer to provide Amman/Deir Alla water reservoir with an annual supply of 10 million cubic metres.

An electrohydraulic station will be built at the end of the pipe to generate electricity and to be linked to electricity network in North Shuneh city. The JD 1 million project will be completed by the end of 1985.

Hassan visits Irbid

Prince Hassan also visited an Irbid Governorate water project where he was briefed by Dr. Mohammad Bani Hani, JVA vice-president for irrigation affairs.

Dr. Bani Hani said in January 1983 the JVA carried out the studies and designs required for introducing a new system of supplying Irbid Governorate with water for household uses and for industrial uses from Wadi Al Arab Dam after it has been established that the current water resources which are located around Irbid and in Azraq fall short of the governorate's requirements of water.

The project, Dr. Bani Hani said, is aimed at accumulating and treating water from four artesian wells and pumping them to Irbid Governorate at a rate of 55,000

cubic metres a day.

The project also includes the installation of a 22.5-kilometres pipeline between the pumping station in Wadi Al Arab and the water reservoir in Zibdah-Irbid, where a three-kilometre long pipeline will transfer the water to the Irbid network.

Dr. Bani Hani also said a 110-cubic-metre concrete reservoir will be constructed in Zibdah-Irbid, in addition to a 3,900-cubic-metre reservoir in the first pumping station and two other reservoirs with a capacity of 1,700 square metres each in the second and third pumping stations.

About 42 per cent of the project was completed by end of July, while the other parts of the project will be finished by mid August 1985, when the project's main parts will be in operation with the exception of a purification station, Dr. Bani Hani said.

Prince Hassan also visited the King Talal Dam and was briefed by the project's director on the reasons for raising the height of the dam which is about 92 metre high.

Work on raising the dam's height by 15 metres started in February 1983 with a view to raising its storage capacity by about 34 million square metres, thus bringing to 82 million the total storage capacity of the dam, the project's director said.

The water from the dam will be used for irrigating 82,000 dunums of land in Jordan Valley and south of the Dead Sea. Work on the project, whose cost is JD 15 million, will be completed early in 1986, he said.

The Kuwaiti Fund, the director said, has contributed JD 12 million while the balance will be financed by the treasury.

Taqi says Iraq-Jordan pipeline financiers will be repaid with oil

BAGHDAD (R) — Foreign institutions financing an estimated \$1 billion oil pipeline to be built between Iraq and Jordan will be repaid with oil, Iraqi Oil Minister Qassem Ahmad Taqi was quoted Wednesday as saying.

This will guarantee the security of the pipeline with foreign interests impressing on Israel not "to attack or interfere," he said in an interview with the Iraqi Magazine Alif-Baa (AB in English).

The 950-kilometre pipeline, to be built by the U.S. firm Bechtel Inc., is designed to carry one million barrels per day (b/d) of Iraqi crude for export from Aqaba.

Mr. Taqi said the company and institutions concerned have been informed of Iraq's plans on financing the pipeline, the magazine reported. (Senior Jordanian officials told the Jordan Times Tuesday that Iraqi Deputy Premier Taha Yassin Ramadan was expected to arrive in Amman this week for talks on the pipeline and other 'economic issues').

Iraq, whose oil terminals in the Gulf have been closed by the 47-month Iran-Iraq war, currently exports one million b/d through a pipeline across Turkey, about one third of its pre-war export capacity.

Jordanian Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism Jawad Anani told Reuters last month that the U.S. Export-Import Bank and American commercial banks were expected to extend more than \$500 million towards the Iraq-Jordan pipeline, with British and French financial institutions providing the balance.

The magazine quoted Mr. Taqi as saying that the contract for construction of another pipeline from Iraq to the Red Sea through Saudi Arabia would be awarded next month.

The deadline for tenders for this pipeline, which will have a capacity of 1.6 million b/d, is Saturday. Two days ago, Iraq and Turkey signed a protocol for another pipeline to carry Iraqi oil to the Turkish Mediterranean coast.

Mr. Ramadan, who signed the protocol in Ankara, told reporters the pipeline would have a capacity of 500,000 to 600,000 b/d and be in operation within 18 months. In his interview with Alif-Baa, Mr. Taqi said surveys under way would raise Iraq's oil reserves to 100 billion barrels from 65 billion barrels currently, giving his country the world's largest known oil reserves after Saudi Arabia.

Navies alert in Red Sea

BAHRAIN (R) — Naval units from Egypt, Saudi Arabia and North Yemen Wednesday kept up a round-the-clock vigil for mines or other devices in the Red Sea area where a spate of explosions has damaged at least 14 ships over the past month.

But shipping sources said traffic was normal along Red Sea routes which are estimated to be used by around 1,700 limited-capacity vessels each month.

In Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, shipping sources said the Liberian-registered Oceanic Energy, which was reported to have hit a mine near North Yemen on Sunday, is under tow from a Saudi tug and expected at Jeddah port in a few days time.

One member of the 31-member Taiwanese crew on the 41,435-ton tanker is reported missing after the blast which damaged the vessel's bow.

The New China News Agency Wednesday reported two Chinese ships damaged by mines in the Red Sea on July 31 and Aug. 3. It gave no details of the ships and made no reference to casualties.

The United States is sending four mine-clearing helicopters together with a support ship to the area and France has also said it is ready to aid the search for mines.

Britain, which has four minesweepers stationed in the Mediterranean, said it is considering an Egyptian request for help. Egypt said Wednesday there were no mines in the Gulf of Suez nor in its Red Sea territorial waters.

Diplomatic and shipping sources in the Gulf have linked the series of explosions to a spillover in the Iran-Iraq war, now in its 47th month.

In Kuwait, Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah voiced his country's concern and said "the international waterway is as important to Kuwait and the rest of the Gulf as much as it is significant to the whole world."

In North Yemen, head of the Treaty and Legal Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, Yuri Rybakov, held talks with officials in Sana'a as concern there mounted over the explosions.

Iranian hijack ends in Rome as 'lone hijacker' surrenders

ROME (Agencies) — An Iranian hijacker opposed to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini surrendered to police Wednesday, freeing his 304 hostages unharmed from an airliner he forced to fly from Iran to Rome.

Police were checking the passengers of the plane to see if any accomplices of the hijacker were concealed among them, a government spokesman said.

Reports from Cairo, where the plane stopped on its way, had suggested the hijacking was the work of a large group. But Italian officials said the hijacker who surrendered now seemed to have acted alone.

In negotiations with authorities at Rome's Ciampino airport, the hijacker had identified himself as belonging to the Mujaheddin-e-Khalq organisation, the main guerrilla group fighting against the Iranian regime, police sources said.

The L.1 Jan Airbus was hijacked Tuesday night on a flight from Tehran to Shiraz in southern Iran. It stopped in Bahrain and Cairo before arriving in Rome shortly before midday Wednesday.

Meanwhile, police continued to search for explosives aboard the plane. Crew members remained on board, according to news reporters monitoring by radio the crew's conversations with the control tower.

All the freed passengers were reported in good condition except for an infant boy who was suffering from cyanosis — usually called a blue baby because of lack of oxygen in the blood. He was rushed to a church-run children's hospital.

Passengers said two hijackers armed with a pistol and a hand grenade had diverted the plane Tuesday to Bahrain and then Cairo, an airport source said. But police said there may be others whom the passengers did not see.

Egypt's state-run Middle East News Agency said the pilot told Egyptian authorities that there were 18 hijackers who had wired explosives around his body and were demanding to be flown to Paris.

But French authorities have said the plane would not have been welcome in France.

New Beirut plan faces thorny problems despite cabinet okay

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's "national unity" government Wednesday approved the first stage of a plan to disengage militias outside Beirut. Prime Minister Rashid Karami told reporters.

However problems must be resolved between the army and rival militias before the plan can be implemented, Mr. Karami said. He gave no specific timetable for the disengagement.

A spokesman for the mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces" militia earlier Wednesday indicated his group would oppose a major part of the plan's first stage.

It calls for the army to replace militiamen along the eight-kilometre "green line" from the foothill village of Shweifat, south of Beirut, to the mountain towns of Aley and Souq Al Gharb.

It also would have the army replace militias along the coast road from Madfoun. 40 kilometres north of Beirut, to the Israeli frontier at the Awali River, 38 kilometres south of the capital.

He said the army could begin implementing unopposed parts of the plan within 10 days. The militias have previously accepted disengagement plans for the foothill and mountain areas, and that part of the plan was expected to proceed.

Mr. Karami provided few details of the plan approved Wednesday, but arrangements reached earlier by a committee of army and militia representatives called for a mainly Druze army brigade to deploy on the green line, where the PSP currently faces mainly Christian army units backed by the "Lebanese Forces."

However Minister Nabih Berri, leader of the powerful Shiite Muslim Amal militia, has insisted the disengagement occur simultaneously with the army deployment on the coast road. It was not clear whether the "Lebanese Forces" objections to leaving the road would hold up the entire plan.

Mr. Karami did not specifically address the "Lebanese Forces" objections but said the cabinet authorised the army and police to negotiate with the militias "existing difficulties" within the plan.

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His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday tours development projects in the Jordan Valley (Petra photo)

Odeh calls on all ministries to reassess resources, priorities

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Finance Hanna Odeh Wednesday called on all ministries and departments to reevaluate their resources and priorities to enable the government to make the best use of the country's resources.

Dr. Odeh was speaking at a meeting held at the Budget Department, which was attended by director general of the Budget Department, directors of departments and public institutions which do not include capitalistic projects.

The aim of the meeting, Dr. Odeh said, was to exchange views on the basis of preparing budgets of ministries and departments in line with a communiqué by the prime minister and to have the budget ready and to announce it without any delay.

"Preparing a budget, meeting the requirements of work without any excess spending or shortage in



Hanna Odeh

allocations, requires re-evaluating their resources and needs, taking into consideration the limited resources we have, and that some ministries and departments are in actual need of some requirements required by their projects," Dr.

Odeh said. This, he said, implies that "we should abide by the priorities and to apply a stages system in meeting our demands, whether in spending on purchasing supplies or when appointing employees or transferring those who are not needed in some departments."

Dr. Odeh listened to the remarks and views of some of the participants of the meeting which focused on achieving a justifiable balance among the various ministries in terms of allocations and appointments before Dec. 31 of each year. Dr. Odeh said there was justifiable reason to stop new appointments before Dec. 31, because such a stoppage will deprive the concerned department of qualified personnel.

Dr. Odeh said it is possible to make appointments, transfers and promotions of staff during the first month of every year.

Likud bloc reportedly split over terms for alliance with Labour

TEL AVIV (AP) — Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's Likud bloc met privately for four hours Wednesday and appeared divided on what concessions it would make to join a Labour-led government.

Right-wing members of the party insisted Mr. Shamir must lead any coalition government, while more moderate Likud officials said the party would negotiate without preconditions.

But Likud Radio reported that Likud officials said the Likud bloc was just trying to draw out coalition talks beyond the 21 days allotted to Shimon Peres, who was appointed the prime minister-designate on Sunday.

Labour also said Likud was undermining Mr. Peres' efforts by continuing talks with the 13 small parties elected to the Knesset, or parliament.

Artel Sharon, Likud's minister without portfolio and the spokesman for the party's right wing,

demanded that Mr. Shamir head any bipartisan government, Israel Radio reported.

Mr. Sharon also insisted that the government continue to build settlements in the occupied West Bank, the most divisive issue between the two parties, the radio said.

Deputy Prime Minister David Levy said the issue of who would lead the government still must be negotiated when the parties meet Thursday.

"Whoever says you don't have the right to bring up the issue of the premiership, and who won't discuss it, is saying there is nothing to talk about," Mr. Levy said on Israel Radio.

Mr. Levy denied Labour claims that Likud planned to use stall tactics to block efforts by Mr. Peres to form a government.

"We will have contacts with other parties, but that doesn't mean we are preventing Mr.

Peres' path, and the proof is that we are sitting with him," Mr. Levy said.

But Ehud Olmert, a moderate Likud parliament member, said: "We are ready to participate in the national unity government. We have set no preconditions including the possibility of Mr. Peres becoming prime minister."

"Not that we are particularly anxious to have him as prime minister, but we are ready to accept it," Mr. Olmert told the Associated Press. "I just came back from a consultation, and I heard no other view."

A Shamir aide said the two parties would have to reach an agreement on policy before cabinet posts and the premiership can be discussed.

Mr. Peres met Wednesday with the National Religious Party (NRP) and proposed a "compromise" on the occupied West Bank in return for their support.

Communications ministry studies express mail

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Telecommunications is currently studying the possible introduction of an express mail service to its post offices, the ministry's under-secretary, Mr. Mansour Ibn Tarif said Wednesday.

Mr. Ibn Tarif was speaking at the conclusion of a meeting for the ministry's planning committee which was attended by directors of the central departments at the ministry.

The express mail service is a distinguished service performed by

some postal administration in the world, through which special postal consignments, sent internally and externally, will be delivered to the consignees during a period ranging between 24 and 36 hours after the date of their despatch, he said.

During the meeting a number of aspects pertaining to preparations for introducing this service and the related costs were discussed, in addition to reviewing some issues related to the clearance of parcels and a draft law on amending the postal transfers fees.

Universities announce student intake figures

AMMAN (Petra) — The University of Jordan will accept 2,452 new students in various faculties in the coming academic year 1984/85. Of these, 2,100 will be undergraduate students and 352 will be post graduate students preparing for their M.A. or Ph.D. degrees.

This was officially announced by the university's council of deans which said that 382 students will be accepted in the Faculty of Arts, 342 in the Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, 343 at the Shar'a Faculty, 172 in the Faculty of Medicine, 92 in the Faculty of Agriculture, 230 in the Faculty of Education, 182 in the Faculty of Engineering, 325 in the Faculty of Law, 30 in the Faculty of Dentistry, 50 in the Pharmacy Faculty, 100 in the Faculty of Nursing and 90 in the Faculty of Physical Education.

The Faculty of Arts is the only faculty which awards Ph.D. degree in Arabic while M.A. degrees are awarded by the departments of Arabic, English, History, Geography, Philosophy, Economy, Physics and Mathematics.

The Royal Committee for Yarmouk University has decided to accept 3,003 students at the university's various faculties for the coming academic year 1984/1985.

Yarmouk University President Adnan Badran has said.

Of this figure, Dr. Badran added, 2,358 will be accepted in the undergraduate studies programme, 290 as undergraduate students in the evening studies section and 350 students in the post graduate faculties.

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Dr. Badran said the university has so far received about 8,000 applications for enrollment in the university and that such applications will be processed and students will be accepted according to their grades.

Speaking about the minimum grades qualifying students to join the various university faculties, Dr. Badran said the minimum grade required for accepting applications for the Faculty of Medicine is 85 per cent, while it is 75 per cent in other medical specialisations and 80 per cent in the engineering and pharmacy faculties. The required grade for applying to other faculties is 60 per cent, Dr. Badran added.

Accepting applications, Dr. Badran said, does not mean that an applicant is admitted to the college he opted to study at, since students will be accepted according to their average grades.



Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar (second from right) addresses an open meeting at Zarqa sports club Wednesday (Petra photo)

Foreign minister receives EC delegate's credentials

AMMAN (J.T.) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Wednesday received Mr. Romano Lantini who presented his credentials as delegate of the Commission of the European Communities to Jordan, in succession to Mr. Thomas O'Sullivan who was appointed as delegate of the EC in Damascus following the end of his term in Jordan at the end of May 1984.

Mr. Lantini has served as EC delegate to the Republic of Central Africa for ten years. He was then transferred to the post of head of the East Africa Division in 1976 and then to head of the West Africa Division at the EC headquarters in Brussels before being appointed as EC delegate to Jordan.



LAIDI RECEIVES HONOURS: Minister of Foreign Affairs Taher Al Masri (right) hosted a luncheon banquet at the Marriott Hotel Wednesday in honour of Algerian Ambassador in Amman Ahmad Laidi on the occasion of the end of his term in office in Jordan. Mr. Masri presented the Independence Medal of the First Order to Mr. Laidi, which was conferred upon him by His Majesty King Hussein. Attending the banquet were a number of ambassadors accredited in Amman, Algerian embassy staff as well as Ministry of Foreign Affairs senior officials.

Nabulsi sets municipal election dates

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Hamdullah Al Nabulsi has decided that elections of the municipal councils in the towns and villages of Tafleh, Sweileh and Fuheis be held in November. The new councils will replace the present ones whose terms of office are about to end.

Nov. 15, has been fixed as the date for the new elections in both Fuheis and Tafleh, while Nov. 21 has been fixed for the elections in Sweileh, Mr. Nabulsi said.

Stores abide by standards

AMMAN (Petra) — A team from the department of specifications and standards at the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism paid an inspection tour Sunday of 353 trading stores in Irbid, Ramtha, Al Husun, Al Sarih, Eidoon, Huwara and Jerash.

A spokesman for the team said that 96.3 per cent of the visited stores were found to be abiding by the specifications and quality of the foodstuffs they sell.

Interior Minister discusses democracy, Arab situation

Arar calls for frank dialogue to overcome Arab problems

ZARQA (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar has stressed the importance of responsible and frank dialogue between officials and citizens in overcoming the problems facing the Arab people.

Mr. Arar was speaking on Tuesday evening during an open meeting in Zarqa at the invitation of the Zarqa sports club. At the beginning of the meeting Mr. Arar said that the severe Arab situation can be attributed to the various Arab disputes which in turn led to Israel pressing ahead with its expansionist policy.

Through democratic and responsible dialogue, Mr. Arar said, we can restore faith to our citizens and thus contribute to a great extent towards solving our problems and overcoming the difficulties

facing us.

Concept of democracy

Speaking about democracy, Mr. Arar said it is an absolute concept and not a political one, adding that in the various countries of the world it represents "system of rule." Mr. Arar also said third world intellectuals should not enter the world ideological struggle forum.

The minister then discussed with a number of dignitaries representing Zarqa residents some

issues of interest to the citizens in Zarqa. Among the issues discussed were the plots of land in Utl Al Zarqa and Rusafa. The citizens requested that these plots be sold to them at reduced prices. The citizens also discussed water and sewerage projects, expanding Zarqa streets, holding elections for Zarqa municipality and converting Zarqa district into a governorate.

Mr. Arar replied to the citizens enquiries and promised to study their demands with the authorities concerned and to speed up solving the problems and difficulties facing them.

Taking part in the discussions was the chairman and members of the Zarqa Municipal Committee and a number of officials from Zarqa.

Security department modernisation needed for progress, Yusef says

AMMAN (Petra) — Public Security Department (PSD) Director Major General Diab Yusef has affirmed that the department's present plan is to continue to develop the public security staff in order to assimilate and to cope with social changes and modern progress.

Maj.-Gen. Yusef said that we are doing all within our capacity to assimilate the new developments around us through a department of well-trained and qualified personnel and the latest techniques in the police world.

Speaking at the graduation ceremony of the third batch of non-commissioned officers held at the specialised training institute, Maj.-Gen. Yusef said that the PSD will focus its attention on individuals to enable them to give their best in the service of the country and citizens.

At the end of the celebration.

Maj.-Gen. Yusef, who patronised the celebration, presented certificates to graduates and prizes to those officers who excelled.



Major General Diab Yusef (third from left) attends a graduation ceremony of non-commissioned officers Wednesday.

Postal union consultant arrives

AMMAN (Petra) — The Berne-based Universal Postal Union (UPU) consultant, Mr. Khaleel Samawi, arrived here Wednesday on a several-day visit to Jordan. During the visit Mr. Samawi will hold talks with Ministry of Communications officials, on strengthening cooperation between Jordan and the UPU and will also discuss some technical affairs related to postal services.

Jordan has high potential to develop natural cures, Romanian doctor says

By P.V. Vivekanand
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan has high potential for developing natural cures for rheumatic complaints and various forms of arthritis, says a leading doctor from Romania who has done over 35 years of research in the field of natural cures.

Dr. Stefan I. Calinesti, head of the "Pell-Amar" Clinic in Budapest and a senior official in the Romanian Ministry of Tourism, says he is impressed by the mineral and chemical-rich mud and water of the Dead Sea and intends to take some samples to Romania for analysis and research.

A large number of Jordanians visit the Pell Amar Clinic every year for treatment, Dr. Calinesti told the Jordan Times. "All of them return to Jordan most satisfied, and the number of people is increasing every year," he said.

The Pell-Amar Clinic, "using one hundred per cent natural medicine," treats people affected with various forms of rheumatism and arthritis, the 62-year-old doctor said. The clinic offers a unique natural cure for all such complaints and, in almost every case, guarantees full satisfaction, said the doctor, who had been conducting research in this field for over 20 years before discovering the curative properties of soil and waters of Romanian spas.

The therapeutic properties and curative powers of Romanian spas have been renowned for centuries, the doctor points out, and "I have simply converted the sapropelic mud into a medicine form which could be used all over the world." The medicine is a stable, standardised and atomised extract which preserves basically all the active elements and properties (microelements, mineral, organic and enzymatic substances) of the natural sapropelic mud extracts from Balta Alba Lake, one of the

famous Romanian spas, according to Dr. Calinesti.

In 1945, a French scientist published a report on patients treated, at the Balta Alba Lake and ever since the country has seen an ever-increasing number of patients from all over the world, he said.

However, since Dr. Calinesti has managed to "preserve the qualities of the curative mud in medicinal form, it is now not necessary to stay for long periods in Romania."

A minimal cure period two weeks; optimal results are obtained in a three-week programme and at the end of the three weeks the clinic will provide the patients with the necessary medicine for use at home for one year, he said.

There are striking similarities between the soil of Romania and that of Jordan, the doctor says, and his current visit to Jordan aims at seeking possibilities of enhancing Jordanian-Romanian cooperation in the field of health.

How is that an official of the Tourism Ministry is interested in issues of cooperation in health? It is very simple, Dr. Calinesti says. The Pell-Amar Clinic, which has several treatment centres at various spas in Romania, offers a "unique natural cure," while at

the same time offering an enjoyable holiday in the East European country.

"The fact that patients from over 125 countries come to the Pell-Amar Clinic every year should be, by itself, a pointer to the effectiveness of our treatment," Dr. Calinesti added.

The medicine, which comes in the form of cream, tablets and injections, apart from electrotherapy conducted at the clinic, is most effective for complaints such as slipped discs, post-accident sequelae (fractures, sprains and dislocations), skin infections, infections of the mouth and the scalp (dandruff, seborrhea and hairfall),

the doctor says.

He assures that there is "no possibility whatsoever of any side-effects from the medicine, because it is purely natural and completely non-toxic."

Is it possible that such curative mud could be found in Jordan? Dr. Calinesti says he is hopeful but it depends on the results of the research and analysis he intends to carry out on the soil and water of the Dead Sea.

Dr. Calinesti, who has been cooperating with the ministries of health and tourism in Kuwait and Qatar for the past two years, arrived in Amman last week. He leaves for Kuwait on Aug. 11.

Furnished or unfurnished apartment for rent

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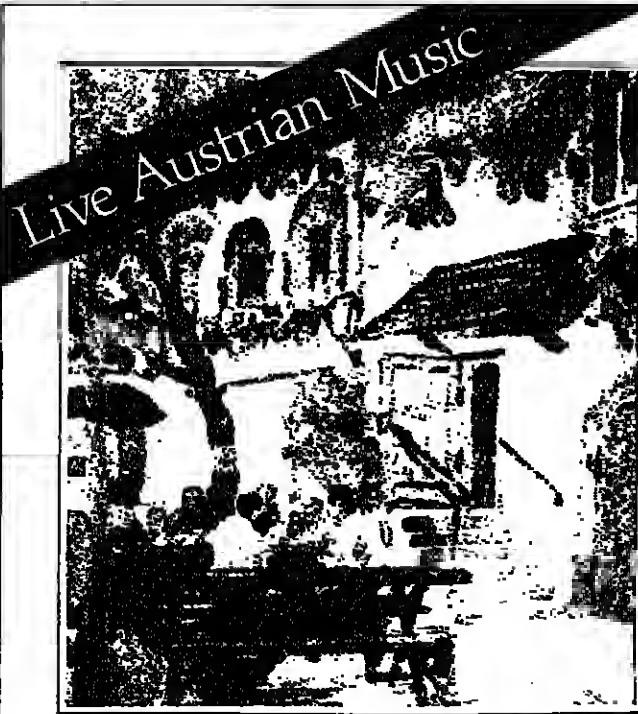
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Likud-Labour get-together

WITH Mapam, Labour's junior partners in the alignment, and Shinit and the Civil Rights Movement (CRM), Labour's potential partners in a new government, agreeing two days to Shimon Peres' talks with the Likud leaders over a "national coalition," the ground was prepared for Israelis to press ahead with forming a Labour-led "national unity" government in Israel. Yesterday, reports from the Likud camp spoke directly of Yitzhak Shamir's readiness to serve under Mr. Peres, provided some conditions of his were met.

So, the tide in Israel is turning in favour of that option apparently favoured by the president, Mr. Herzog, and by Yahad's leader, Mr. Weizman, and Yosef Burg of the National Religious Party (NRP) — all powerful figures in Israeli politics. That option — the formation of a "national unity government" — is not a bad one for the Labour Party.

It could actually be the best course for Mr. Peres and his colleagues who would obviously be happy to get the Likud to sign economic austerity bills and do other things that the Labour leaders favour at this stage. A Labour-led unity government in Israel, in other words, would strengthen the Labour Party's hand among the electorate, after being almost forgotten out of office for seven long years, and would not therefore be a bad option for Mr. Peres to pursue.

Now that the prospect is there of seeing a new Israeli government, led jointly by Peres, Shamir, Rabin, Sharon and others from the two main parties, one has to ask what such a group would do with the occupied territories and the problem of the Palestinians. At first sight, the answer would be: nothing. The composition of such a government would be such that no major decision on the future of the Jewish state could be taken at all. But for the Arabs to assume that only this scenario can happen, in the eventuality of a unity government in Israel, is a big mistake. We have to look more closely and seriously at the possibility of having neither the Likud nor Labour in office on its own, for the next months at least. If we did not now, we might well be caught politically off-guard in a span of a few weeks.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Kahane adds little

THE ATTEMPT by the Israeli deputy Meir Kahane Tuesday to storm the Al Aqsa Mosque and hang the Israeli flag, and his call for the eviction of Palestinians do not constitute a departure from the general Israeli thought and practice.

Kahane's attempt this time is carried out under parliamentary immunity which he has never been in need of, since his practices and statements have always been supported by the Israeli government.

Kahane's election as deputy in the Israeli Knesset is an opportunity for Western information media in general and the American information media in particular, to beautify the image of the Israeli entity through launching campaigns against Kahane personally.

The sufferings of the Palestinians and Arabs caused by Zionist aggression, occupation and intimidation make us list Kahane among Israeli terrorists who headed the Israeli governments such as Shamir and his predecessor, Begin.

The school of terror which has been supported by certain superpowers has not ceased to bring about hundreds and thousands of Israeli leaders who are zealous for expansion and aggression.

Kahane's attempt is a proof of the evil intentions and plans which the world Zionism and the USA endeavour to force on the area, irrespective of the havoc and disasters it might bring with them.

Al Dustour: Mines indicate complications

REGARDLESS OF the party responsible for planting mines in the Red Sea and the Suez Gulf, there is a close relation between the situation resulting from the planting of mines and the threat to navigation in the Arabian Gulf.

All indications relevant to the mines and related political and security results signify that what has happened in the Red Sea is not but hint of what might take place in the Arabian Gulf waters.

Such a correlation between the current crisis in the Arabian Gulf and the current crisis in the Red Sea clearly discloses the various dangers the continuation of the Iran-Iraq war would bring and highlights the complications which might spread to other areas if the international community continues to ignore the conflict and tension currently clouding the area.

The international community should learn from this lesson and should prompt actions to put an end to the Gulf war whose danger threatens new areas.

Sawt Al-Sha'ab: Protect the Holy Sites

SINCE AUGUST 1968, which marks the Al Aqsa arson, Israeli premeditated crimes against the Holy Sites have never stopped. Such crimes, which are aimed at liquidating Arab and Islamic existence in Palestine and the Holy City of Jerusalem, have reached a peak with Tuesday's attempt by Meir Kahane, to storm the Al Aqsa Mosque and to hoist the Israeli flag on it.

Kahane's attempt aims at politicising terror against Arabs and the Holy Places and to ensure political protection for terror. It also aims at agitating Jewish fanaticism against Arabs and directing it towards a speedy implementation of Zionist plans for the occupied Arab lands.

Kahane and his supporters always try to remind the Israelis of their major goals, at the head of which is obliterating Islamic shrines and Holy Places and Judaizing the Arab city of Jerusalem.

The coming era will witness an ugly attack on Islamic Holy Places, which might end with a disaster if Islamic, Arab and international efforts are not concerted and rallied to provide the required protection for the Holy Places in the occupied territories.

Arabs and Muslims should pace the steps towards a joint action to curb Israel's attempts to destroy the Holy Places and to save such places from Zionist destruction and tampering.

Numeiri determined on implementing Islamic Law

By Michael Sheridan
Reuter

KHARTOUM — From the minarets rising above the dusty streets of Khartoum the cry of "God is Great" resounds with new fervour. The word of God is now law in President Jaafar Nimeiri's Sudan.

To the applause of many devout Sudanese Muslims and to the dissent and disapproval of Christians and animists who make up some 35 per cent of Sudan's 22 million people, Mr. Nimeiri's drive to enforce Islamic "Sharia" law is pressing ahead.

Since a state of emergency was declared on April 29, his "decisive justice" courts have been hard at work.

Murderers are sentenced to hanging, then crucifixion. Skilled prison warders publicly sever the hands, and sometimes the feet, of thieves and leave the amputated limbs on display. Loose women and drinkers are flogged.

All of which delights the fundamentalist Muslims who, dip-

lomats and Sudanese sources say, now surround Mr. Nimeiri. But in this vast, desperately poor and religiously diverse African nation, the move has helped rekindle the flames of civil war.

Sudan's history is one of collision between the African and Arabian worlds. The country is divided between a mainly Muslim North and a Christian and animist South.

A 17-year-old civil war ended in 1972 with an agreement giving the South autonomous rule.

Southern secessionists, angered by Mr. Nimeiri's 1983 redivision of their region into three parts, had already started fighting again when Sharia was introduced last September.

Arab and Western diplomats concur that the move intensified southern resentment. Government officials disagree.

Contradictions persist, swimming pools in Khartoum's luxury hotels are now rigidly segregated between men and women. Businessmen stare gloomily into endless glasses of "fruit punch" in

the prohibitionist bars. But pork sausages and chops — declared unclean by Islam — adorn menus and tables.

And in the southern city of Juba, foreign travellers say bars still serve beer. The "decisive justice" courts have yet to impose Islamic sentences in the non-Muslim South.

Speakers argued both sides of the case at a recent meeting in Khartoum's "Friendship Hall" on the banks of the Blue Nile.

Ahmad Abdul-Rahman, a member of the political committee of the ruling Sudanese Socialist Union, the country's sole political party, attacked the "double standard in the West."

He said Western media were distorting facts to mount a campaign against Islam and the Sudan.

But Abdul-Al Osman, vice-chancellor of Juba University, said: "From my experience in the South, people are haunted by the idea of a sort of Arab colonialisation."

"There have been dem-

onstrations in Juba against Sharia," he said, adding that southern Muslims, feeling their African traditions endangered, had joined the protests.

Sudan's Chief Justice Dafalla El-Haj Youssef, replied that Islam was not forced on anyone. But, he said, "Sharia is above the rulers and the ruled. All are equal and answerable for their acts and omissions."

He also said that "Hadd (Islamic sanction) punishment for drinking is applicable only to Muslims."

But non-Muslims have been sentenced by the Islamic courts. Giuseppe Manara, 39, an Italian Roman Catholic brother and former procurator of the Sudanese Bishops' Conference, was sentenced to 25 lashes and two weeks in jail earlier this year for possessing alcohol.

The United States, Sudan's biggest aid donor, has expressed concern about the imposition of Islamic law.

A State Department spokesman described limb amputation as "a cruel and unnatural

punishment and a clear and serious violation of human rights."

Diplomatic sources say the United States is seeking to persuade Mr. Nimeiri — so far without success — to moderate the pace of Islamicisation for fear of sparking full scale insurgency.

Mr. Nimeiri has angrily rejected foreign criticism as unwarranted interference in Sudan's internal affairs. The United States gives Sudan some \$190 million aid and \$45 million in military assistance a year.

Mr. Nimeiri also says Sharia law has nothing to do with trouble in the South, instead accusing Libya, Ethiopia and the Soviet Union of subversion.

The path of Islam, the president has said, is "a final and inevitable option."

Informed sources say this reflects the influence of four key figures who make up Mr. Nimeiri's close entourage.

Diplomats identify the four as Abu Gurun, a Sufi Dervish Islamic missionary who holds the

post of legal attache, Awad El-Gid Mohammed Ahmad, minister at the presidency for legal affairs, Babiker Abdullah Ibrahim, secretary general of the Zakat (Islamic tax) Chamber and Badria Suleiman, a female presidential legal aide.

Plans to Islamicise the constitution hit a snag recently when the People's Assembly (parliament), according to official accounts, "asked for more time" to consider the proposals.

Diplomats and Sudanese sources say the measures were discreetly withdrawn after it became clear they would not get the necessary two-thirds majority.

It is also planned to bring the economy into line with Islamic orthodoxy by substituting "zakat" for taxation and abolishing interest.

But although the tax measures are due to take effect from Sept. 26, Sudanese and foreign businessmen say they have been given no idea how the system will work in practice.

Military readiness surfaces as major U.S. campaign issue

By Robert Trautman
Reuter

WASHINGTON — New charges that U.S. forces lack the readiness to fight and win a war are surfacing almost daily and, despite Reagan administration efforts to lay them to rest, seem likely to be a major presidential campaign issue.

The charges come amid massive military spending under President Reagan and strenuous assertions by Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger that U.S. troops are far more war-ready now than when Mr. Reagan took office in 1981.

The latest allegations that U.S. forces have only enough ammunition to fight one small war in one part of the world were rejected recently by Pentagon officials.

But the Washington Post said war games conducted by the joint chiefs of staff last autumn found

munitions and other supplies would begin running out in the first month of a war in South Korea.

The newspaper added that the joint chiefs found that if a second crisis developed in the Middle East, for instance, the Pentagon would be unable to support the troops it sent there.

Defence officials said war games always present a "worst-case" situation to try to discover faults in the system.

They also said the Post's report was only a small portion of the joint chiefs' study and was taken out of overall context.

In a written statement, the Pentagon called the war game a success and said it had included what it called artificial factors such as assuming the enemy was always at full strength and the United States was fighting without allies.

It also said U.S. supplies included in the exercise were based on mid-1983 levels and did not

include major improvements made since then.

Such exercises are beneficial, it added, because they reveal shortcomings which can be corrected.

"The exercise was a success," it said. "We have made improvements based on its results and we are more ready and have more warfighting capability today because of it."

But political analysts said Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale was likely to seize on the new report, a leaked memo from a senior defence official earlier this week and a report last month by congressional committee staff.

Democrats have accused Mr. Reagan of spending too much on arms — \$600 billion since taking office — and not enough on readiness, including supplies, transport and munitions.

Mr. Reagan has defended his efforts to "rearm America," calling them vital to the nation's security.

in the face of a massive and ongoing Soviet buildup.

Mr. Weinberger, in congressional testimony, speeches and news conferences, has detailed the Soviet buildup and has pronounced the U.S. effort to counter it a success.

He called the congressional staff study old — it was compiled from 1982 information — and said its release by the Democratic-controlled committee at the start of the presidential campaign was politically motivated.

The report concluded that U.S. forces were unable to fight a sustained war against the Soviet Union.

Mr. Weinberger told a news conference, hastily called to deny the report, that "this is just simply not the case."

"We have drastically and measurably increased our war-fighting operational capability since 1980," he said.

But the charges of unreadiness



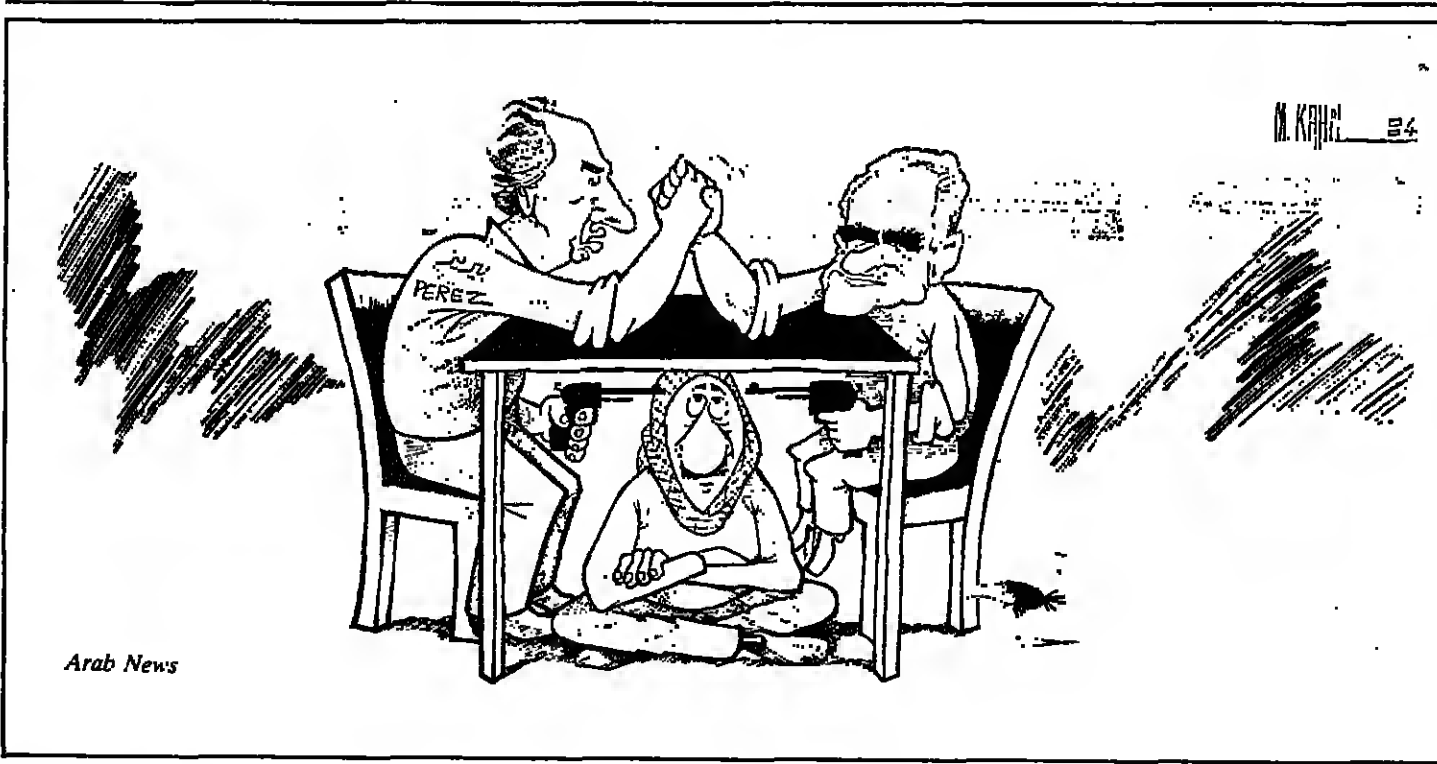
continued.
The New York Times disclosed last week that Mr. Weinberger had been cautioned by a senior

aide that his claim of a 39 per cent improvement in readiness since 1980 was open to challenge.

Lawrence Korb, assistant secretary for manpower, logistics and installations, told Mr. Weinberger in a memorandum leaked to the Times that the 39 per cent figure was an average that reflected a major improvement in navy readiness but also declines in army and air force readiness.

The latest charges in the Washington Post include a finding that after a month of fighting in Korea, the army would have to limit use of ammunition to 25 per cent of the normal rate. Later it would have to be reduced to between 10 and 20 per cent.

It also found in the war games study, mostly run on a computer, that before a month passed the navy would have to use supplies stockpiled in Western Europe and the Atlantic. The air force would have to draw on supplies stored around the world.



Arab News

Killings go on in despairing Ulster

By Ed Blanche
Associated Press

BELFAST — The wall slogan in Belfast's Protestant Shankill Road reads: "All Taigs (Catholics) are targets."

A quarter-mile away in the Catholic Dail Road, the graffiti artists daubed their response: "This is provoland" — heartland of the guerrillas of the Irish Republican Army's "provisional" wing.

Fifteen years after "the troubles" exploded in Northern Ireland, the messages of hate and despair bear grim testimony to the deep-rooted sectarian hostility that defies the peace-makers.

Today, despite many efforts to solve the crisis, both sides seem even more resolved for showdown.

The conflict erupted in Londonderry's Catholic bogside ghetto on Aug. 12, 1969. Catholics fought the predominantly Protestant police for three days.

On Aug. 14, a 300-man company of the Prince of Wales own regiment marched across Crumlin Road Bridge spanning the river, Foyle with bayonets fixed to restore order.

The British Army was soon bogged down in what has become Europe's longest conflict since World War II. The regular army has lost 377 killed and more than 3,700 wounded, the locally recruited Ulster defence regiment 146 dead.

By police count, 2,382 men, women and children have been killed in Northern Ireland, including more than 250 IRA "volunteers."

That does not include 10 guerrilla hunger strikers who starved

themselves to death in 1981, gunmen secretly buried by their comrades, or soldiers mistakenly shot by their own men.

More than 25,000 people have been maimed, blinded or wounded. In Ulster's tight-knit communities, few families have not been touched.

Another 150 people have been slain in the Republic of Ireland, the British mainland and as far afield as Wales since the 16th century.

The intensity of the violence has diminished amid tightened security, large-scale undercover operations and harsh anti-terrorist laws.

British Army strength has shrunk from a peak of 22,000 men in 1972 to 8,000 now. The troops are there now primarily to back up the 11,000-strong police force, the Protestant Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Downtown Belfast around the Gothic pile of city hall no longer has the air of a combat zone. Movie theatres and clubs have re-opened, but when there is trouble, night life stops. People stay inside, in their own areas.

The bloodshed and the tension have traumatised the province. The 1.5 million people swallow an estimated 35 million tranquillisers a year, according to the Health Department.

Severe economic decline, with one in five of the work force unemployed, fuels the unrest. Discrimination in jobs and housing continues despite British efforts to eradicate the long-standing Catholic grievances that helped spark the troubles.

Both sides are digging in, and many expect a showdown. Despite Britain's declarations that it will

not quit Ulster, the IRA believes it will triumph. Many Protestants, noting that it costs London more than 1 billion pounds (\$1.3 billion) a year to keep Ulster part of the United Kingdom, are inclined to agree.

The IRA seeks to force the British out of the Protestant-dominated province and unite it with the Catholic Republic. The organisation, now controlled by radical leftists in Belfast led by one-time internee Gerry Adams, aims to topple the Dublin government and set up a Socialist All-Ireland Republic.

For years, the British branded the IRA as "gangsters and thugs." But the emergence of Sinn Fein, the IRA's legal political front, has given the movement a veneer of political respectability.

Sinn Fein, Gaelic for "ourselves alone," emerged in the wake of the 1981 hunger strike that galvanised Catholics, and it took 43 per cent of the Catholic vote in the 1982 British general election. Much of that thrust came from hardline nationalists who had not voted in earlier polls.

Most Catholics want to see Ireland united and many support Sinn Fein because they feel there is nothing else.

But Ulster's one million Protestants, who outnumber the province's Catholics 2-1, want no part of a united Ireland where they would be outnumbered 4-1 by Catholics.

In 1969, the IRA was virtually extinct. But these days, the shadowy organisation has widespread support and is lean and deadly.

Tom Hartley, a lifelong Sinn Fein activist who now sits on the movement's central committee, said in an interview: "It's going to

be a long war.
"The IRA can't be defeated. But at the same time we can't bring enough pressure to bear to win militarily."

Andy Tyrrie, self-styled supreme commander of the 5,000-strong Ulster Defence Association (UDA), branded Catholic support for Sinn Fein a "vote for violence."

He said in an interview at UDA headquarters above a supermarket in the Protestant stronghold of East Belfast: "The vote for Sinn Fein doesn't seem to leave us much of a choice to work out a compromise with anyone."

"Everything seems geared to push me into a united Ireland — either with sugar or the big stick, whichever seems to work the fastest. I want no part of it."

The burly Tyrrie, out on bail on terrorist-related charges, said: "Protestants are increasingly frustrated. The British don't give a damn for us anymore."

"In southern Ireland, the non-Catholic population has shrunk from 20 per cent in 1920 to 3 per cent today. There's nothing saying I can survive. There's no room for me in a united Ireland because... the Catholic Church is going to dominate it and it's used as a political weapon."

The conflict, while intensifying sectarian polarisation, has broken down many myths and forged new perceptions.

The UDA, while professing allegiance to the British crown, now openly advocates an Ulster independent of London and Dublin. Catholics, traditionally believers in a united Ireland ruled from Dublin, want little to do with their British rulers.

Singapore marks 25

By Francis Daniel
Reuter

SINGAPORE — Prosperous Singapore proudly celebrates its silver jubilee this week with Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew cautioning that the real tests lie ahead as the tiny nation grooms a new leadership and seeks new skills to bolster its vibrant economy.

"Stand up for Singapore" is the official theme of the celebrations, designed to give the island's 2.5 million people a sense of pride and commitment.

Singaporeans have much to boast about. Since gaining internal self-government in 1959 and full independence from Britain in 1965, they have attained the highest standard of living in Asia after Japan.

The economy has raced ahead at between eight and 10 per cent for several years. Foreign economic experts say the outlook in the coming years is just as bright.

But Mr. Lee, 60, has cautioned that the real test for the state is still ahead as a group of young men, now under his personal grooming take over the political leadership in the next decade.

The next few years also will hit Singapore badly. Mr. Lee has predicted. He is concerned with what he describes as a gradual shrinkage of the island's talent pool and its genes stock.

He wants highly educated Singapore women and men to marry early and produce intelligent children. But his efforts appear to have met with little success so far.

His ageing colleagues in the cabinet say that affluent Singaporeans are losing their traditional Asian and moral values. A senior minister accused Singaporeans of substituting money for religion.

But all the concerns over Singapore's potential future problems will be blurted during the celebrations on Thursday, the national day. It will be the biggest and most lavish and colourful ever organised here to mark 25 years of nation building.

Independence will again be the focal point for the celebrations, including a mammoth parade by civic, cultural and political organisations and the fast growing Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), which will display some of their modern weapons for the first time.

Flags, bunting and placards have been erected throughout the 670 sq-kilometre island, which is also gearing itself for a general election later this year.

The celebrations are expected to give a boost to Mr. Lee's People's Action Party (PAP). Lone opposition parliament member J.B. Jeyaretnam has alleged that there are indications of government funds being used to increase PAP's chances in the elections.

Mr. Lee dismissed the accusation and predicted another



sweep at the polls. He also forecast that there will be no major challenge to his government in the foreseeable future.

The government is so confident that it has passed a law to allow three defeated opposition candidates with the highest number of votes to enter parliament if the PAP makes a clean sweep at the polls.

Mr. Lee says that some opposition in parliament could be healthy for Singapore's future because it will satisfy the demands of new, young voters who will outnumber their older compatriots in coming years.

The PAP totally dominated parliament for 16 years before Mr. Jeyaretnam won a by-election in 1981. Mr. Jeyaretnam, a practising lawyer, said his victory reflected the changing mood of the electorate.

But Mr. Lee, in a recent address to parliament, brushed aside Mr. Jeyaretnam's contention and said his main worry was how his new group of young leaders would perform in high political office.

Singapore's present, one-man-one-vote political system, a legacy from its colonial days, may not endure, he said. But he added without elaboration that his government was committed to upholding the present constitution.

But Mr. Lee said Singapore would face a bigger danger if the PAP were to split through leadership tussles. He warned that some ambitious and bright young men might not be totally trustworthy.

السلامة

THE LITERARY CORNER

Al Nubani faces us with our reality

IF IT is to be considered a literary sin to commend a literary work of some sort, then allow me to willingly and gladly commit the sin of praising the one-act, one-man play "The Fact of Life," which was performed last week at the Royal Cultural Centre. The play presents what I can safely call an unprecedented and excellent integration of the three main dramatic elements: acting, text, and direction — at least in Jordan.

Zuheir Al Nubani, one of the most famous Jordanian TV series and theatre actors did really surpass himself in performing a "solo" ninety-minutes play. He performed, as never before, a novel monologue for the first time in the history of the Jordanian theatre. His performance, touching our hearts, addressing our minds and divulging our big and little secrets alike, made the monologue seem full of life, characters and events. He excelled to the extent that despite the fact that it was a one-man show, the audience felt that there were many characters on the stage, and Al Nubani was just performing a soliloquy between the scenes.

He succeeded, through his movements, shouting, gestures, and laughs — in portraying the personality of the "oriental husband," whose wife has just passed away and who is considering a second experience of marriage. Most of the time he devotes the best part of his talk to his late wife, reminiscing with its sweetness (if any) and bitterness, and of guilt, he finds himself forced to defend his deeds, actions, behaviour and future projects against her unspoken accusations.

— "All through her life, she never accused me."

— "You had to serve me."

— "I used to tell you of my concerns, although I was sure you never understood a word, but I had to tell somebody."

— "All through my life, I shouted at you and beat you, and you always endured."

— "You were just a plain country girl, just exactly as you were when you first left your village."

He persecuted her? Yes. But he also was subject to endless oppression through her ignorance, indifference, sluggishness and submission.

— "Even when you came to bed, you did it because it was your duty; I never felt that you came out of desire."

— "I hated everything at home, that is why I used to get angry for the most trivial reasons."

The photograph which Al Nubani kept addressing while moving from one place to another was artistically expressive of the woman desired to be imagined and did reinforce the audience's feeling of the woman as being alive. I personally felt at times that her looks did accuse us of siding with her husband and plotting against her.

More importantly, Al Nubani never let us get bored. Not only that, but he also succeeded in making the audience enjoy ninety minutes of painful reality, forgetting the actor and the acting.

Mamdouh Udwan, the great Syrian poet and playwright did really surprise the literary centres by producing such a profound, comprehensive one-act play. In "The Fact of Life" he could successfully portray the dilemma faced by the Arab individual in the 1980's (more

broadly perhaps is the post-independence era). He depicts the suffering, agony and tyranny which the Arab individual suffers and sometimes inflicts on others. The playwright was able to show that the Arab citizen is persecuted everywhere and at all times — even at his own household by a nagging wife. He tries to show how evil and phoney we are:

— "This is the advantage of education and reading books: to enable you to deal with the strong."

— "I was the one who first cried the moment she passed away."

— "I cried like a child before them all."

— "I tried to the extent that I made them all cry."

— "I even made Sameera (his future wife) cry."

— "This one wants to inform me that he went to extend his condolences. That one wants to inform me that he will go to extend his condolences."

Even at the peak of his supposed grief, the protagonist could see the body of the doctor's wife through her transparent, blue nightgown. The nightgown seems to be functioning as an unavoidable obsession in the old man's ravaging mind. Many a time he refers to his daughter-in-law's youth and nightgown.

Udwan could, in no equivocal terms, make us face our reality, but he never meant to make us hate ourselves. We sometimes laugh — thanks to Al Nubani — when we are faced with our true nature, but at no time or circumstance do we become misanthropists. Why should we? Isn't that what we are, and yet we are living with it. Isn't that what we like about ourselves: our human reality?

The playwright did, however, find a source of hope amidst the self-pity, self-condemnation process. Man is free, and he chooses whatever course of action he may please even if it leads to another marriage, notwithstanding any consequences it may bring about.

The author's language, his ability to harness the folklore sayings, and his deep insight into life in general and his people's life in particular, together with a broad and comprehensive education brought

us this masterpiece of drama. Hatem Al Sayed, the famous Jordanian director integrated the eloquent text of Udwan and the outstanding acting of Al Nubani and thus presented us with a performance the Jordanian theatre never witnessed before. He could successfully convey the feeling of guilt that the protagonist kept referring to by moving him into cages he set up in the corners of the stage. He was capable of conveying the author's message that we are often imprisoned within ourselves through the sense of guilt we keep feeling, even though we are unconscious of committing any sins.

In short, I, among many many others, was fascinated by this new experience in the Jordanian theatre, and I petition for more appreciation for such serious works both at the official level and at the popular level. Let us help Al Nubani get the recognition he deserves and thus alleviate some of the frustration that he, by now, feels as a result of his second marriage.

— Ahmad Jaber.

Randa Habib's Corner

My turn, Sir

HAVE YOU noticed that the custom of first come first served is hardly, if ever, applied at all here.

I would never be as optimistic as to hope that people stand in queues everytime there is more than one customer waiting for his turn, that those who use service taxis at rush hours do not throw themselves at the car, not minding that there are people who have been waiting for a long time. No, I am just talking about shops, pharmacies, boutiques.

In a shop a man is being served, another comes and with authority asks for what he wants. This never fails; he will definitely be served, and would leave while the first customer would have to wait for someone to take care of him.

Personally, I have never seen a salesperson telling the second client "excuse me sir, but this gentleman was here first; when I am through with him I will serve you."

And yet it would not be that big an issue. If the customer gets used to being answered like this, they would be more disciplined and would wait when they see that another customer is already in the shop.

Last week I went into a pharmacy. I was the only customer and gave the prescription to the lady there who started to prepare the medicines. A lady came in and literally shouted saying, "Quickly. I have left my car running; give me shampoo N". The lady put my prescription aside, chose the shampoo, and while she was registering the sales on the cash machine another gentleman came in and said, "I want shaving cream". The shampoo lady went out and this man got his cream and left. It was then that I was remembered, and the lady started looking for the second medicine (three were four). In the meantime a young girl came in, chose a suntanning lotion, and handed the money. My medicines were left on the counter.

When the lady went to the cash another woman came in "Ascriptin please, I am in a hurry." When everybody had left, I saw a man heading for the pharmacy. I quickly asked the lady why she was always interrupting my medicines to serve people who come in after me. She said, "You want four medicines while they all wanted one item and were in a hurry."

"We are all in a hurry, but certainly more urgently when we need medicines." I answered, because I felt she would never understand that being the first I should be the first to be served.

Orphan boys find haven in summer camp

By Anne Counsell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Nearly 200 orphaned or fatherless boys are currently having the time of their lives at a special summer camp organised by the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in cooperation with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA).

The three-week summer camp is being held at the UNRWA vocational training centre in Na'our, 15 kilometres west of Amman, where the open spaces and excellent facilities are ideal for the children to pursue a host of educational and recreational activities.

The 200 boys, aged between nine and thirteen years, are from the ten Palestinian refugee camps in the country and have been selected from poor families in these camps with the help of UNRWA welfare officers and YMCA youth officers.

Mr. Ali Abbas, summer camp director and recreation officer at the Amman Training Centre, said that the summer camp provides the orphaned boys with the opportunity to build up their self-confidence through making new friends, participating in group activities and developing their talents.

Mr. Abbas stressed that the change of environment is also a positive factor which contributes to a child's self development. He explained that the boys do not have the chance to pursue many normal childhood activities in the refugee camps where they live, and said that the excitement of trying something different at the summer camp, together with the encouragement, love and support they receive during their stay, can have positive effects on the child's personality and confidence.

Mr. Abbas is well-qualified to

talk about the development of orphan children as he has been director of the summer camp since 1976 and has conducted a study on the self conception of orphans in the environment of the extended family compared to that of orphan children in institutions, a study which was prompted by his association with, and interest in, the summer camps.

Volunteers

The seemingly daunting task of occupying 200 young boys for three weeks is made to look easy by the 30 instructors and 20 junior counsellors who supervise the boys. Mr. Abbas said that all the instructors are volunteer teachers and social workers from UNRWA schools and the Amman Training Centre.

The counsellors, who are all orphans themselves, are "graduates" from previous summer camps who also volunteer to pass on some of their knowledge and experience to the newcomers.

Not a minute is wasted during the boys' busy schedule. The day begins at 5.30 a.m. when it is time to wake up, wash, dress and perform exercises before breakfast. Beds are made and rooms tidied before the daily gathering under the flag when the programme for the day is announced.

Activity periods during the day include art, crafts, reading, music, singing, educational games, sports, civil defence and first aid which are timetabled in rotation so that everyone has a fair share of the fun during the three weeks.

Busy schedule

The children also visit factories, tourist and archaeological sites and sports clubs. For recreation they watch films, visit the amusement park at Ras Al Ain in Amman and hold competitions.



Orphaned boys between the ages of eight and 13 play educational recreational games as part of their busy day at the summer camp.

parties and sing-songs around the camp fire, all before bedtime at nine o'clock.

The boys are provided with three meals a day in addition to two snacks, whilst medical care is provided by a visiting UNRWA doctor and volunteer eye specialists and dentists.

Mr. Abbas said that an emphasis is placed on personal hygiene and health education. Fingernails and hair are inspected every morning and medallions are presented to boys who improve their personal standards.

The general atmosphere of the summer camp is happy, healthy and relaxed. A tour of the site reveals groups of boys dressed in bright red, green and blue outfits of shorts, T-shirts, gym shoes and caps purposefully engaged in their pursuits. Scrubbed and not so scrubbed faces peer from under the coloured hats trying to take in all

that is going on. Naturally a few of the boys are more reticent and shy than the others and these boys are given a guiding hand by the counsellor who helps them along with the words of a song or a difficult drawing.

English visitor

Working as a volunteer counsellor at the camp is Mr. Graham Lane, a second year student of Arabic and politics from England. Mr. Lane came to know about the summer camp through UniPal (Universities supporting Palestine) which is based in Cambridge, England. He said that UniPal sends volunteer university students all over the Middle East on short-term programmes such as the summer camps.

Mr. Lane, who has worked with youth activity schemes in the West Bank and Lebanon, remarked

that the relaxed atmosphere of the camp in Jordan contrasted dramatically with that he experienced in the West Bank and Lebanon. He said that the harassments that he encountered elsewhere did not exist here, but rather people were cooperative and keen to help. During his stay at the summer camp Mr. Lane is holding art and craft courses for the boys.

The children at the camp were evidently enjoying themselves and were keen to talk about their experiences and to introduce their new friends from the other refugee camps. Mr. Abbas said that UNRWA and the YMCA hope to arrange visits to the various refugee camps throughout the year so that the boys can maintain their friendships which, he said, are an important part of their growing up.

Mr. Alex Ghamachi, director of YMCA projects, told the Jordan

Times that the summer camps for orphans started in 1972 through a sponsorship by Youth Action Norway who donated \$10,000 for the UNRWA/YMCA youth activities projects.

Rising costs

At that time the amount was sufficient to run a two week summer camp with fewer children," said Mr. Ghamachi, "but inflation and rising expenses have pushed the cost of the camp up to \$25,000." In order to find the balance to run the summer camps, the YMCA formed a local committee in Amman who try to obtain contributions and donations to meet the cost of the camp.

Mr. Ghamachi said that the cost for each boy attending the summer camp amounts to about JD 50. The YMCA supplies the boys with everything that they need during their stay at the camp: two shirts, two sets of shorts and shoes, in addition to personal items such as towels, combs, toothbrushes and soap.

"We have had a lot of generous cooperation from all sectors of the community," said Mr. Ghamachi. "The British and Australian embassies and the American Women of Amman all donated money towards the camp and UNRWA gave us JD 1,000 from the proceeds of the fun run they organised. In addition, several factories have made donations of fruit juice, biscuits and other requirements and a few individuals and store-keepers have also given gifts," he added. Mr. Ghamachi went on to say that the summer camps would not be possible without the cooperation of UNRWA which provides the premises at cost price, supplies the transport for the children's visits, selects the children from the refugee camps and supervises the medical check-ups.

The YMCA, he said, provides the financial assistance, clothing and provisions but the most important role of the YMCA is in the youth activity centres which are located in each of the ten refugee camps in the country.

Not forgotten

In these centres there is a follow-up programme to the camp so that the boys do not feel that they are forgotten once the summer is over, Mr. Ghamachi said. The youth centres organise various educational and recreational activities with the equipment provided by the YMCA. The boys also receive gifts at least once a year: last year 350 boys were given a pair of trousers and a shirt each, he said.

Mr. Ghamachi said that about sixty new boys join the camp every year and many often attend the camp every year until they are 13 years old. However, older boys asked if they could continue to attend the summer camps so the YMCA introduced the junior counsellor system whereby the older boys join in with the summer camp to help the new arrivals settle in.

In previous years summer camps were also organised for

orphan girls by the YMCA although they were not really equipped to deal with it. "But there was no-one else who would take on the task of providing camps for girls," said Mr. Ghamachi, "so we did."

The YMCA formed a local committee to organise the girls' camps for several summers, but this year the voluntary committee faced administrative and financial difficulties which meant that there was no camp for the girls this year. "However, we hope to generate enough support to organise a camp for next year," he said.

"The YMCA is aware of the need to extend training and activities programmes for girls," continued Mr. Ghamachi, "and we are trying to extend our services to help all those in need, we work for all members of families," he added.

The end of the summer camp will be marked by an open day on Aug. 10 when the boys will be presented with certificates of merit and gifts. "We have invited all those who have contributed towards the summer camp to attend the open day in order that they can actually see how they helped. Just a look at the boys' faces tells everyone that it was all worthwhile," concluded Mr. Ghamachi.



Groups of boys tuck into their mid-morning snack (Photos by Anne Counsell)

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South Korea threatens to pull out of boxing

LOS ANGELES (R) — The South Korean boxing team threatened Tuesday to pull out of the Olympic tournament after their top light-welterweight Kim Dong-Kil lost a quarter-final points decision to American Jerry Page.

"We are seriously considering pulling out of the Olympics," South Korean Boxing Federation Vice-President Oh Soo-In told a press conference.

He said the Korean delegation had lodged an official protest against the 4-1 decision which was being considered by the International Amateur Boxing Association's protest committee.

The committee can either uphold the decision or recommend to the association's executive committee that it overturns the result.

"We have met many people who think the judging has been

unfair," Oh said. Asked if he meant that U.S. boxers were benefiting from this, he said: "Yes."

Several delegations, notably the British and African teams, have said privately that they are unhappy with the judging here.

But only Nigeria have lodged an official protest, which they lost, over the defeat of light-welterweight Charles Nwokolo by Puerto Rican Jorge Maisonet in the third round.

Earlier Tuesday Malawian coach Cardil Gondwe told a press conference: "We are fighting the

whole of America out there. It is always 5-0 when we fight against an American as though somebody in the ring is not boxing."

Gondwe was talking after Malawi flyweight Peter Ayasu lost 5-0 to American Steven McCrory, the world number two amateur. The Malawians did not dispute the outcome, but felt the bout had been closer.

The South Koreans said they thought Kim had won by one or two points, and ringside experts also thought he had won.

Oh said the final decision on whether to withdraw the boxers would be influenced by the outcome of the protest. But he declined to say definitely that the boxers would leave if the result was upheld.

Five judges from neutral countries score each bout. In the event of a close decision, the scoring of a five-man reserve jury is taken into consideration.



Armed Forces hold shooting contest

AMMAN (Petra) — The finals of the Jordan Armed Forces shooting contests were held Wednesday at the army shooting field between the various formations where the Special Forces team won the overall title while the 12th Royal Mechanised Division won the singles title. At the end of the contest, the Armed Forces inspector general deputised for the chief of staff and the president of the Military Sport Federation in presenting the cups and prizes to the winning teams.

Japan beats U.S. at their own game

LOS ANGELES (R) — Katsumi Hirose's three-run homer in the eighth inning led Japan to a 6-3 upset over the overwhelming favourites from the United States and won them the Olympic baseball tournament Tuesday night.

Baseball is a demonstration sport in these games and medals are awarded by the Los Angeles Games organisers only, and do not count in official Olympic competition. But a crowd of 55,300 spectators packed Dodger Stadium for the final doubleheader.

Taiwan won third place by shutting out South Korea 3-0 when Lin Hua-Wei's run-scoring triple and Yang Ching-Long's homer broke up a 14-inning battle.

In the championships game, the previously unbeaten U.S. squad went ahead 1-0 in the third on Shane Mack's homer.

Japan got two runs in the fourth and made it 3-1 in the fifth, with Hirose's home run settling the issue as sidearm pitcher Yukio Yoshida held the Americans under control over the final three innings.

Yugoslavia wins handball gold

FULLERTON, California (R) — Yugoslavia won the women's Olympic handball title for the first time when a late four-goal burst by Svetlana Dasic-Kitic helped them to a 24-23 win over South Korea Tuesday night.

The Soviet Union, who boycotted the Los Angeles Games, took the gold medal at both previous Olympics since women's handball was introduced in 1976. It was the fourth successive win by the unbeaten Yugoslavs in the six-nation round-robin tournament. Their triumph over South Korea gave them an unbeatable lead in the standings with one match remaining.

The Koreans slipped back to share second place with China, at two victories apiece. China beat Austria 21-16 in an earlier game.

The tenacious Koreans battled gamely through the first half to trail 14-15 but were overpowered in the second half by the taller, stronger Yugoslavs.

Dasic-Kitic sealed the Koreans' fate with four goals.

THE Daily Crossword by Samuel K. Flegner

ACROSS	24 Vinegary	53 East	18 Habeas
1 Jack's climbing companion	26 Pacific island	55 Powwow	23 corpus, e.g.
5 Confusion	28 Ledger entry	59 General plan	25 Row of seats
10 Name in tennis	30 Altar boy	61 Greetings	27 Copland and Burr
14 Where Gobi is	33 Gratify	63 Silk worm	29 Native of Islam's holy city
15 Marilyn of opera	36 Bred	65 Ephemeral	31 Josip Broz
16 Timetable, for short	38 Sarcastic remark	68 Manipulator	32 Mild oath
17 "Ain't Misbehavin'" man	39 Tocsin	69 Thrush var.	33 Legend
19 Fatigue	41 Navy non-com	70 Repair	34 Dismounted
20 Remote	42 Tony award musical	71 Spooky	35 Tough task
21 Impolite	44 "— Bias"	72 Indigent	37 Monkey
22 Irene's dancing partner	45 Slope	73 Supplicate	40 Obsession
	48 Footless		43 Ecotistical
	49 Home of the Braves		47 In an im-
	51 India's attire		48 Hat
			49 In an im-
			50 Weapons depot
			52 Croissant
			54 "— were the days"
			56 Great excitement
			57 Hippodrome
			58 Young chicken
			59 Chimney pipe
			60 River into the Seine
			62 "My Love is like —"
			66 — and cry
			67 Michief maker

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

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Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mamdouh El Adwan	Elabjar	Owner	Salah	54
2- Khalid Elfaleh	Jarrah	Owner	Moustafa	54
3- Fawaz El Nabulsi	N. Fawaz	Owner	Daifallah	52.5
4- Fawaz El Nabulsi	Shalilh	Owner	Saad	52.5
5- Aly Mohammad	Elafieh	Owner	Ibrahim	52.5
6- A. El Sattar Matar	Shahleh	Owner		52.5
7- Saied G. Elfalaz	Rima	Owner	Mahmoud	52.5
8- Mohammad A. Elhady	F. Naour	Owner	Mousa	52.5
9- Aly Awad	M. Ma'in	Owner	Ahmad	52.5
10- Shtaiwy Jamaany	M. Usamah	Owner	Fawaz	48

SECOND RACE 3.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1600 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Fahid Mtlak	Mansour	Owner	Ibrahim	53
2- Mohammad Ali	A. Elizz	Owner		53
3- Saleh G. El Falaz	M. Sakhr	Owner	Fawaz	53
4- Mohammad Ahmad	Frajilh	Owner	Ahmad	51.5
5- Ziad Abboud	Shahrizad	Owner	Mousa	51.5
6- Mohammad A. El Naby	Sholah	Owner	George	45.5

THIRD RACE 4.00 FOR BEGINNERS DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- H.H. Late Sharif Nasir Stables	Sayal	Ibrahim	Fawaz	53
2- H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stables	Jallab	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	48
3- Mamdouh El Hadid	Elfaia	Owner	Ahmad	51.5
4- Ghalib Haddadin	Sayaf	Owner	George	48
5- Samy Haddadin	Salwa	Owner	Mahmoud	46.5
6- Faisal Awad El Falaz	Kasimolouk	Owner	Mousa	46.5

FOURTH RACE 4.30 FOR THIRD CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1000 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Bahjet Fanous	Apollo	Owner	Mikhail	57
2- H.R.H. Princess Badia'a	Badia'a	Owner	Ibrahim	53.5
3- H.H. Late Sharif Nasir Stables	El Hmady	Owner	Fawaz	53
4- A. Elattif Elhadid	S. Elwhidh	Owner	Daifallah	53
5- Ghalib Haddadin	Rable	Owner	Mahmoud	53
6- Ghalib Haddadin	Naifeh	Owner		51.5
7- Ghalib Haddadin	Raddad	Owner	George	47
8- Nidal B. Elhadid	El Khansa	Owner	Mousa	51.5

FIFTH RACE 5.00 FOR SECOND CLASS HORSES DISTANCE 1400 METRES

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Ghalib Haddadin	O. Elaswad	Owner	George	54
2- Ghalib Haddadin	Awad	Owner	Mahmoud	50
3- A. Elattif Elhadid	Wisam	Owner	Ahmad	50
4- H.H. Late Sherif Nasir Stables	Tairelababil	Ibrahim	Ibrahim	48
5- Sami Haddadin	B. Elreesh	Owner	Mikhail	48
6- Sami Haddadin	Khloud	Owner		46.5

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(Colour) Indian

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Heavy casualties reported as Sri Lankan troops, rebels clash

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — About 100 casualties were reported Wednesday in fresh clashes between army troops and Tamil separatists in the troubled northern part of Sri Lanka

Scores of Tamil youths were arrested Wednesday in army sweeps through the region, officials said.

The Sri Lankan government, meanwhile, denied the navy shelled a coastal town in retaliation for a weekend guerrilla ambush. A government source, however, privately confirmed the attack and said about 2,000 families had been left homeless.

Authorities said about 100 "Tamil terrorists" raided the state-owned National Savings Bank in downtown Jaffna, the main city in the northern province, used grenades to blow open the entrance and escaped with a safe-deposit box in a truck.

Unofficial but reliable sources said the attackers were ambushed by security forces after the raid and practically all of them were killed or wounded.

"There were bodies strewn all over the place," the sources said, asking not to be identified. Three civilians also were killed in the ambush, they added.

State police in Colombo ad-

mitted security forces fired on the raiders but reported no casualties immediately.

The United News of India news agency reported that troops opened fire and wounded five civilians at the scene of the robbery—the second attack on a bank in two days — "long after the militants had escaped in a van."

In another development, up to 100 Tamil extremists, attacked the Chunnakam Police Station, 15 kilometres outside Jaffna, with grenades early Wednesday, prompting police to open fire, state police said.

The unofficial sources said four policemen were killed in the attack, while the rebels suffered heavy casualties in the police gunfire. The police station was flattened, they added.

State police reported no casualties and said the surrounding walls of the station were slightly damaged.

Further details of the two incidents were not immediately available. Authorities have imposed tight censorship on news dis-

patches from the strife-torn region.

Authorities earlier said at least 42 people, including five policemen and two navy officials, have been slain in a new round of bloodletting since last weekend in the northern province, home of the minority Tamil-speaking community.

Tamil rebels in the Indian Ocean island-nation have been fighting for "ealam" or an independent homeland. The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, an insurgent group, has claimed its men killed 20 military and police officials in six separate attacks since last Saturday.

Army troops combing the countryside for Tamil separatists arrested up to 600 suspects since the weekend, officials said.

Authorities have imposed virtual curfew in the entire northern province by ordering citizens to remain indoors during the continuing anti-terrorist military operation.

The United News of India (UNI) news agency, meanwhile, reported that security forces fatally shot a Tamil restaurant owner and five of his employees in the town of Vavuniya in apparent reprisal for the terrorist slaying of the

local police chief on Monday.

A Defence Ministry spokesman denied Indian news reports that as many as 110 people were killed Monday when the Sri Lankan Navy shelled the coastal town of Valvettiturai, 310 kilometres north of Colombo.

A senior government source earlier admitted a military "attack" on Valvettiturai, located on the northern tip of the island, but provided no casualty figures or other details.

UNI and the Times of India reported Tuesday that many Valvettiturai houses were burned and hundreds of residents were left homeless in the shelling. The Times said more than 100 civilians and 10 security men were slain in the attack.

The Defence Ministry spokesman said the town had only been cordoned off by the military, who were searching for Tamil extremists.

The government source, who spoke on the condition that he not be identified, said violence was escalating in the Tamil-dominated north, threatening to plunge the entire nation into civil strife.

"Right now it is an insurrection, but it could become a civil war," he said.

Moscow reportedly testing new missiles

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union is successfully testing its own versions of the U.S. MX missile and a long-range cruise rocket and the Americans are watching closely, a Moscow magazine reported Wednesday.

The weekly Literaturnaya Gazeta quoted Marshal Vladimir Tolubko, head of Soviet Strategic Rocket Forces, as saying Moscow was carrying out a pledge made in 1983 to match Washington's MX and cruise development programmes.

The author of the article, Valery Gorbunov, said that with Marshal Tolubko's authorisation he was taken to the Soviet Union's secret missile testing site to see the work in progress.

He reported seeing one missile test carried out and hearing a report at a staff conference that a U.S. RC-135 spy plane was already waiting in the ocean area where the rocket was due to land.

Marshal Tolubko's article made clear that it was a regular practice for U.S. reconnaissance craft to be in position well in time to monitor tests carried out by the Soviet strategic forces and, as he put it, "to sniff out other people's secrets."

White House backs Bush-Ferraro debate

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — White House political strategists have changed their mind and now say Vice President George Bush is prepared to have a debate with Democratic opponent Geraldine Ferraro, the Washington Post reported Wednesday.

Ms. Ferraro, the first woman to stand for vice president for a major party, has repeatedly challenged Mr. Bush to a debate and said she would meet him under any conditions he wanted.

Mr. Bush said initially he was willing to do so. But White House aides demurred in the belief that a debate carried high risks with little potential benefit for the Republicans.

The Post said the Republicans had now decided that failure to have a debate made Mr. Bush look scared and handed a campaign issue to the Democrats.

"Bush will not shy away from a debate. The president is ready and willing for him to debate," an unnamed White House official told the Post.

President Reagan has already agreed in principle to a debate with Democratic presidential nominee Walter Mondale.

Mr. Mondale has proposed a series of six debates with each session devoted to a single topic. Mr. Reagan has said two debates would be more appropriate because the public will be bored by a larger number.

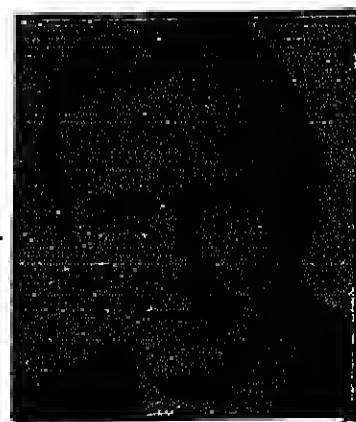
White House strategists believe Mr. Reagan's performance in a televised debate with former President Jimmy Carter was a major factor in his landslide victory in 1980 and they are confident he will do well against Mr. Mondale.

But they have less confidence in Mr. Bush. Some Reagan aides feel he performed disastrously in debates with Reagan during the contest for the 1980 Republican nomination.

On Tuesday a conservative legal group charged that Democratic Vice Presidential candidate Geraldine Ferraro had violated the law by not disclosing her husband's financial holdings and it called for the U.S. House of Representatives ethics committee to investigate her.

Paul Kamenar, executive legal director of the Washington Legal Foundation, said it "strains credulity" for Ms. Ferraro to have claimed she had no knowledge of her husband's holdings, although she listed herself as a shareholder and corporate officer of the family realty firm.

Mr. Kamenar's remarks came at a news conference held in a congressional office near Ms. Fer-



rarro's own.

Shortly after Mr. Kamenar left a copy of his complaint with guards in front of her, the congresswoman emerged and told reporters, "I don't believe I've violated the law."

She called the complaint "an attempt to politically embarrass me. I'm not embarrassed." She repeated her earlier promise to make a full disclosure within 30 days of her nomination as Walter Mondale's running mate at the Democratic Party's national convention in San Francisco last month.

The will come in about 10 days, said Ms. Ferraro, who has promised previously to disclose both the finances and the income tax returns of both herself and her husband, wealthy New York developer John Zaccaro.

Ms. Ferraro said, "I still feel qualified" for the exemption on the congressional disclosure forms she filed for the past six years that spared her from revealing the holdings of her husband or children.

"I will not change that," Mr. Kamenar said he did not yet have the signature of one member of the House who had agreed to transmit the complaint to the ethics panel, or signed statements from three who had refused to transmit it. An individual must get such signatures in order to file the complaint.

John Davison, chief counsel to the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct — the ethics panel — said that under House rules, he could not comment on even whether the complaint had been received. Formal complaints are held in secrecy by the panel.

But he said that under its rules, if a complaint is properly filed, copies are sent to the chairman and ranking minority member within five days, and then it must be put on the committee's agenda within 30 days or it is "automatically added to the agenda."

High-speed train back on rails

LONDON (R) — Britain's revolutionary tilting high-speed train made a modest come-back Wednesday, more than two and a half years after an embarrassingly brief debut. State-run British Rail (BR) has scrapped plans to mass-produce the Advanced Passenger Train (APT), once billed as a 225 kilometre-per-hour (KPH) rival to a new generation of high-speed trains in France and Japan. Instead it will take fare-paying passengers between Glasgow and London twice a week to test their reaction to plans for a new train, the 140 KPH Intercity 225. The 200-seat APT, designed at an initial cost of almost \$60 million to negotiate bends at speed, left Glasgow Wednesday with 70 passengers. It now has a more modest top-speed of 200 KPH. Red-faced officials took the train out of service in December 1981 after the tilt mechanism failed, making passengers feel sick and spilling their drinks. BR has spent a further £4 million (\$5.3 million) modifying the train and the tilt.

Tobacco company wins suit against Iran

WINSTON-SALEM, North Carolina (AP) — R.J. Reynolds Tobacco International Inc. has won a \$49.8 million award in a lawsuit it filed in the wake of the 1979 Iranian hostage crisis. Company officials said the Iran-United States Claims Tribunal in the Hague, Netherlands, also dismissed more than \$10 million in Iranian counterclaims against the company.

RJR Tobacco International's award — the largest issued by the tribunal to date — is payment for tobacco products shipped to the Iranian State Tobacco Monopoly before the hostage crisis erupted in November 1979. It includes interest after the company filed suit with the tribunal. The tribunal reserved judgment on whether the company should be paid interest for the two-year period before the lawsuit was filed. The company filed suit after negotiations for payment failed. It presented arguments before a three-member panel in the Hague in May 1983 and March 1984. Iran deposited \$1 billion in a Dutch bank against which U.S. companies could file claims under an agreement that led to the release of American hostages in January 1981.

Woman reprieved from flogging

RAWALPINDI, Pakistan (AP) — Authorities Tuesday indefinitely put off the first public flogging of a woman here, saying she was not "medically fit" to undergo the punishment for adultery. Rabia Khatoun, 33, and married, was to be given 10 lashes following her conviction on Oct. 9, 1982 by a district court that also sentenced her to three years hard labour for the offence. Although in jail, she was to be escorted from her cell to near her home and lashed before a crowd as a symbolic act of humiliation. There was no information available on her health or her lover's fate. Nor were there any signs of public resentment in this bustling town on the outskirts of Islamabad. There have been a few instances of women being flogged in Pakistan since martial law. President Gen. Mohammad Zia Ul Haq introduced Islamic Law five years ago. But it would have been the first time a woman was given stripes in the federal capital area.

Ottoman palace to be made hotel

ANKARA (R) — A former Sultan's Palace by the Bosphorus in Istanbul is to be turned into a hotel complex, Turkish Tourism Ministry officials said. Bids from foreign or local firms are expected by the end of this month. To turn the fire-damaged Ciragan Palace into a hotel, casino and recreation centre, they told Reuters. The palace and its annexes will be leased for the next 49 years to the firm which wins the contract. Restoration of the palace, of which now only the outer walls stand, and construction of other buildings on the site are expected to cost \$35-50 million, the officials said. Ciragan Palace, built in 1866 by Sultan Abdul Aziz, burned down in 1910. It was also used as a meeting place for the second Majlis or parliament of the Ottoman Empire in 1908.

U.S. says Capitalism can curb population growth

MEXICO CITY (R) — The United States has asked a United Nations Conference on Population to endorse its view that Capitalism is the best way to prevent excessive birth rates.

But the U.S. proposal, submitted Tuesday in the form of amendments to draft recommendations, was unpopular with most delegates to the 135-nation conference, diplomats said.

"Recent history has demonstrated that an economic policy which encourages firms and individuals to produce goods and services in a market setting tends to yield significant economic growth," the U.S. proposal said.

The Reagan administration, which believes that greater affluence results in smaller families, has said governments receiving U.S. aid should not use it on abortion programmes.

Swedish Health Minister Gertrud Sigurdson told the conference she disagreed with the U.S. policy. "I would like all women in the world to have access to safe and legal abortions," she said.

The head of the Australian delegation, Immigration Minister Stewart West, told Reuters many delegates seemed nervous about the introduction of abortion onto the agenda.

Conference condemns French tests

PORT MORESBY Papua New Guinea (AP) — The 18-nation Asian-Pacific Commonwealth Conference on Wednesday condemned French nuclear testing in the Pacific and opposed any plans to dump nuclear waste in the ocean.

A communique issued after the one-day meeting also said the organisation — known as the Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting (CHOGRM) — would continue and selected Malaysia as its next meeting place. No date was set for the meeting.

The future of the eight-year-old organisation had been in doubt until Wednesday's meeting. The group comprises Australia, Bangladesh, Cook Islands, Fiji, Malaysia, New Zealand, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Western Samoa, Kiribati, Nauru, Brunei, India, The Maldives, Singapore, Tonga, and Papua New Guinea.

France's nuclear testing and its Pacific colonies as well as nuclear issues dominated the conference held in the new Parliament House in Port Moresby.

Prime Minister Michael Somare of Papua Guinea, in a keynote speech, praised the New Zealand government's recent decision to ban nuclear-powered or armed warships from its ports, saying it had done the Pacific nations "a major service."

The New Zealand decision has caused major problems for the ANZUS alliance between New Zealand, Australia, and the United States. The United States has said the alliance will be unworkable if New Zealand continues its ban.

The New Zealand decision also has spurred long-running demands in the region for a nuclear free zone in the South Pacific.

Speaking at a news conference after the meeting, Mr. Somare said he believed the three ANZUS partners would resolve their impasse, adding that Pacific nations agreed on the need for a pact like ANZUS to keep the region stable.

Delegates at the conference agreed it was up to individual nations to decide if they wanted to

ban nuclear warships, he said.

Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke, speaking to reporters in his hotel, said Australia supported the free passage of U.S. nuclear warships but opposed nuclear testing, dumping, or storage of weapons in the South Pacific.

The South Pacific leaders at the conference agreed to push the concept of a nuclear free zone at the annual meeting of the South Pacific forum in Tuvalu next month.

Mr. Hawke appeared to defend the French government against calls by some Pacific nations for early independence for New Caledonia. France's largest possession in the South Pacific. Mr. Hawke said he had told the conference he had met French President Francois Mitterrand and was told France was working toward independence for the territory that would protect the rights of the Melanesian population who make up 43 per cent of the population.

"I judge his integrity to be complete," Mr. Hawke said.

Kampuchean peace affects ASEAN, Singapore says

SINGAPORE (R) — Singapore Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew said Wednesday a settlement in Kampuchea would decide whether Thailand remains secure as a non-Communist member of ASEAN.

"It is in our national interests, and that of Malaysia and Indonesia, that Thailand remains sovereign and free and not under Communist influence through pressure by surrogate Communist regimes in Kampuchea or Laos,"

he said in a national day message.

The Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), which groups Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, the Philippines, Indonesia and Brunei, is demanding the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops to pave the way for a neutral Kampuchea.

But Lee said Hanoi's military action in Kampuchea in support of its opposition to China had, in an indirect way, helped maintain stability in the ASEAN region.

Sandinist says opposition group lost legal standing

MANAGUA (R) — Nicaragua's main opposition group, the Democratic Coordinator, has lost its legal standing after failing to register candidates for the November elections, Junta Member Sergio Ramirez said Tuesday.

"The coordinator ... cannot make public pronouncements about the electoral process, call for abstention nor try to sabotage the elections for the other seven parties who registered their candidates," Mr. Sergio Ramirez told foreign correspondents.

He said that according to the electoral law, the parties in the coordinator would continue to exist as political movements but would have to seek permission from the Interior Ministry to hold public rallies.

Mr. Ramirez said if the Social

Christian Party, the best organised of the four parties in the coordinator, were to present all the necessary documents the supreme electoral council might consider extending the deadline for registration of candidates.

Nicaragua's government Monday night issued a decree granting more press and individual freedoms in what political observers in Managua said represented significant concessions to the opposition.

The decree, announced by Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega, reestablishes the right to strike and an individual's right to habeas corpus except in cases of threat to national security.

It also re-established press freedom except for military information.

U.K. attorney-general urges cooperation against terrorism

CHICAGO (R) — British Attorney-General Sir Michael Havers called Tuesday for international cooperation to deal with terrorists, including those with diplomatic status.

He said Britain had decided never to agree to blackmail, to pay ransom, to exchange prisoners or to comply with other demands because "weakness does not pay in dealing with the terrorist."

In a speech prepared for a meeting of the American Bar Association, Sir Michael called for "the closest possible bilateral and international cooperation" on the problem, beginning with an exchange of information about terrorist groups and their activities.

"Secondly we want to see the expulsion or exclusion of known terrorists including people with diplomatic status who are suspected of involvement in terrorist activities," he added.

Sir Michael said Britain would like every country to review arms sales to countries supporting terrorism.

"We should like to see like-minded countries consider joint action if one of their number suffers a serious terrorist attack in-

volving abuse of diplomatic immunity," he said.

Sir Michael said provisions of the Vienna Convention on the subject should be strictly enforced.

These included "exemplary expulsions of members of any mission which the government had good reason to believe is responsible for unacceptable activities," the setting of limits on the size of diplomatic missions, and the refusal of diplomatic status for missions which are not being used for that diplomacy, he said.

Sir Michael said he realised that concerns about reciprocity in diplomatic relations limited the scope of such controls, but the matter nonetheless needed to be addressed.

"We would (also) like to see other countries explore whether their own domestic legislation contains any gaps which might be exploited by terrorists," he said.

"There is a very necessary but difficult balance to strike between reducing the opportunity for terrorist activity to the minimum while defending the rights of individuals to express strongly held political views," Sir Michael added.

Rebels kill 5,000 Filipinos in 3 years

MANILA (R) — Nearly 5,000 servicemen and civilians have been killed in counter-insurgency operations in the Philippines in the past three years, President Ferdinand Marcos said Wednesday.

Sabotage by rebels and subversives had destroyed private and public property estimated at more than 291 million pesos (\$16 million), he said.

Addressing ceremonies marking the 83rd anniversary of the Philippine Philippine Constabulary, Mr. Marcos said 2,320 military personnel and 2,600 civilians had been killed in campaigns against rebels.

Mr. Marcos called for a "total sense of public vigilance" in fighting subversion and insurgency.

"New concepts, new tools, new resolve and urgency on the part of the government and people are needed. Time frittered away ... and complacency in closing our eyes to the various aspects of insurgency multiplies the dangers to the nation," he said.

The New People's Army (NPA), military wing of the banned Communist Party, has been

increasingly active, especially in Luzon Island, in the north and in Negros and Samar Islands in the central Visayas region.

It has a firm grip on parts of Mindanao Island in the south, which has also been a battle ground for the secessionist Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF).

Mr. Marcos said insurgents had set up more front organisations and support funds both from local and foreign sources had increased. Subversives were also raising money by exploiting the drug market, he said.

A constabulary intelligence report released Tuesday night said the Communist Party had infiltrated and was able to manipulate a number of church social action projects.

It also said many religious personalities had joined the Communists while "hundreds of others" had become activists or sympathisers.

"The extent of Communist Party influence in the church sector may also be seen in the increasing number of religious and church-based organisations which

carry the party's propaganda line (and) which are also at times utilised as pressure groups," it said.

The constabulary said Wednesday it had captured what it called the highest-ranking woman in the Communist Party and two associates in a raid on their house in Manila on Monday.

It said that Milagros Aguilan-Roque, the director of a Roman Catholic college, headed organisations identified by security forces as fronts for the Communist Party.

The constabulary said Mr. Aguilan-Roque was wanted for attempting to smuggle arms into the Philippines in 1972 and 1974 and carried a reward of 100,000 pesos (nearly \$5,000) on her head.

The two others arrested were named as Cynthia Nolasco and Willy Tolentino.

Manila newspapers said Ms. Nolasco, 34, a leader of the militant alliance of concerned teachers, was seized by armed men from a public jeepney bus. They said Ms. Tolentino, 25, was her house servant.

Mugabe opens second party Congress

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Prime Minister Robert Mugabe opened the second national congress of his ruling ZANU (Patriotic Front) on Wednesday with support and sheltered Zimbabwe guerrillas in the seven-year war that transformed the white-ruled British colony of Rhodesia into black-ruled Zimbabwe at independence April 18, 1980.

Mr. Mugabe and his longtime political rival, Zimbabwe African People's Union President Joshua Nkomo, led two separate armies in the war. But after independence, Mr. Mugabe fired Mr. Nkomo from his coalition government for allegedly plotting a coup, and the two have ever patched up their quarrel.

Mr. Nkomo, Mr. Mugabe's political mentor of the early 1960's was notably absent from the congress of the ZANU (PF).

Another of Mr. Mugabe's political rivals, previous Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa, is in

beads of state — Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia, Samora Machel of Mozambique and Quett Masire of Botswana — took their seats on the grandstand. The three leaders supported and sheltered Zimbabwe guerrillas in the seven-year war that transformed the white-ruled British colony of Rhodesia into black-ruled Zimbabwe at independence April 18, 1980.

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Another of Mr. Mugabe's political rivals, previous Prime Minister Bishop Abel Muzorewa, is in

his 10th month of detention for allegedly seeking South African and Israeli help to overthrow the government.

Mr. Mugabe, who has accused all opposition leaders of scheming against his government, has long vowed to introduce a one-party state into one of Africa's few Western-style democracies.

Under Zimbabwe's British-drafted constitution — adopted by all parties at Lancaster House peace talks in London in December, 1979 — calls for a multi-party system.

In the first 10 years of the constitution, changes require the approval of all 100 members of the National Assembly for the first seven years and 70 per cent of those legislators for the last three years.

A draft constitution, presented to congress at the opening, pledges "to establish a one-party state in Zimbabwe under the vanguard leadership of ZANU (PF)."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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THE VAN WINKLE SYNDROME

South deals.
North
♦ A 532
♥ Q 87
♦ 103
♥ Q 732
West
♦ Q 9
♥ 102
♦ A Q J 5
♥ K J 9 S
East
♦ K 10 6 4
♥ S
♦ K J 9 S
♥ 8 6 4
South
♦ 87
♥ A K J 9 6 4 3
♦ K 7
♦ A 10
The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Dble 2 ♥ Pass
4 ♥ Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Queen of ♠.

as it appears in the book, cover the South and West hands with your thumbs and decide how you would defend four hearts from the East seat after your partner leads the queen of spades and declarer plays low from dummy.

Note North's raise to two hearts over the double. That is exactly the same bid that he would have made had there been no double. South's jump to four hearts is merited because of his distributional assets.

If you signaled enthusiastically to the first trick to show partner that you liked his lead, you understand signaling. However, you have fallen asleep on the job. Partner surely has at least three spades for his takeout double, and you have only one chance to gain the lead and do something constructive.

The winning defense is to overtake partner's queen of spades with the king and shift to a diamond. If you fail to do that, declarer will set up dummy's queue of clubs for a diamond discard and he will make his contract instead of going down one.

The maxim: Keep awake in defense, for there will often be no second chance. Get the book now and glean another 100 nuggets of advice at a cost of under eight cents a hand — there are few better bargains in bridge today.

Hugh Kelsey has established an international reputation as accomplished and prolific bridge writer. His latest effort, "101 Bridge Maxims" (Devyn Press, 209 pp., paperback, \$7.95. Available post free from Bridge World Magazine, 39 West 94th St., New York, N.Y. 10024), is intriguing in concept, pleasant to read, and an education in sound bridge reasoning.

Kelsey has taken 101 principles that have withstood the test of the time, presented them as problems and, after explaining how the hand should be played and why, he gives the maxim on which the hand is based. To test yourself on this example